

On page 19, in the last sentence of the Abstract of the Disclosure, please replace the phrase "the locations of contact between them, when projected onto the plane of the snowboard, lie on a single circle" with the phrase -- the contacts between them, when projected onto the plane of the snowboard, are all tangent about one mutual center point --.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please rewrite claims 1 and 10 as follows.

1. (Amended) In snowboarding equipment that includes a snowboard, two boots, one boot for each of two feet of a snowboarder, and two bindings, each binding designed to secure one boot to the snowboard, a safety device comprising

a binding support platform fashioned to enable fastening of both bindings, the bindings being fastened to the binding support platform rather than to the snowboard, and

a platform retention assembly that is fashioned to be fastened to the snowboard,

the platform retention assembly including a plurality of preloaded compliant members that form interfaces with contours on the binding support platform,

said interfaces preventing the binding support platform from separating from the platform retention assembly except when a force or torque applied to the snowboard exceeds a set threshold, and

the platform retention assembly including a plurality of firm features that contact firm mating features of the binding support platform,

said firm features and firm mating features being arranged such that [the locations of contact between them, when projected onto the plane of the snowboard, lie on a single circle] the contacts between them, when projected onto the plane of the snowboard, are all tangent about one mutual center point.

10. (Amended) In snowboarding equipment that includes a snowboard, two boots, one boot for each of two feet of a snowboarder, and two bindings, each binding designed to secure one boot to the snowboard, a safety device comprising

a binding support platform assembly and,

at least one platform retention plate fashioned to be fastened to the snowboard,

wherein the binding support platform assembly includes

a binding support platform fashioned to enable fastening of both bindings, the bindings being attached to the binding support platform rather than to the snowboard, and

a plurality of preloaded compliant members that form interfaces with contours on the platform retention plate,

said interfaces preventing the binding support platform assembly from separating from the platform retention plate except when a force or torque applied to the snowboard exceeds a set threshold, and

wherein the platform retention plate includes one or more firm features that contact one or more firm mating features of the binding support platform assembly,

said firm features and firm mating features being arranged such that [the locations of contact between them, when projected onto the plane of the snowboard, lie on a single circle]the contacts between them, when projected onto the plane of the snowboard, are all tangent about one mutual center point.

REMARKS

The requested preliminary amendment to the specification and independent claims is intended to more precisely describe the feature of the invention that permits in-plane rotation of the binding support platform relative to the snowboard while preventing relative in-plane translation. The requested preliminary amendment is not in response to any office action; no office action has yet been received in connection with the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

05MAR02
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